CHILLICOTHE REMINISCENCES 1811.

by

W. R. Southward.

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# CHILLICOTHE, 1811

BY

W. R. SOUTHWARD

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W. R. Southward

Published Privately
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The publisher dedicates this pamphlet to Chillicothe's foremost historian

Col. David McC. McKell

FOREWORD

Southward's reminiscences of 1811 depict an accurate and interesting view of Chillicothe at that date, In fact Henry Bennett( famous Chillicothe historian and author of "Hats Off! " ) valued Southward so highly he reconstructed a map of Chillcothe in 1811 from the foregoing article as a basis. This newspaper story appeared originally in the Chillicothe Scioto Gazette for February 27, 1866. And, Mr. Bennett's map is now on permanent exhibit in the library of The Ross County Historical Society Museum in this city.

Chillicothe, Ohio .
October 10, 1950.

For the Scioto Gazette.

# CHILLICOTHE IN 1811.

## Reminiscences of an Old Merchant.

We reprint, from the Scioto Gazette of Feb. 27th, 1866, the following authentic and highly interesting sketch of Chillicothe as it was seventy-three years ago. The faces and the scenes of which it tells are now but memories, whose pictured presentment finds familiar recognition in the minds of only the oldest inhabitants; but as a means of comparison between the present and the far-off past, these reminiscences will be equally interesting to the generation of to-day.

I.

My first visit to Chillicothe was in the spring of 1811. I went there from Baltimore, a traveling stranger, visiting the West in search of a business location. The company from Baltimore consisted of Messrs. Scott, Hathway, Elder and myself. We traveled under the guidance of Mr. John T. Barr, of the firm of Barr & Keys, of Chillicothe. Mr. Barr had been East for goods, and was returning home. Mr. Keys and myself had been clerks together in the same counting room for several years in Baltimore. We came over the mountains on horseback, the only mode of travel in that day. At Pittsburg we purchased a flat boat, into which Mr. Barr put his goods, and we our horses and baggage. We descended the river, taking it leisurely; tied up the boat at night, and through the day floated down. We also had a canoe, which we purchased for the purpose of visiting the farm-houses on the banks of the river, to get butter, eggs and chickens, and to see a little rural life. We came to Marietta, and stopped there half a day, where I made the acquaintance of Messrs. Dudley and Wm. Woodbridge, to whom I had letters of introduction from Baltimore. We next tied up at Blennerhasset's Island. Here we stopped for a few hours, to see a place so noted in the annals of the day. The mansion had been burned down, a short time before, and the embers were still alive and smoking. The deer park still remained, with the deer ring around it—and the wreck of beautiful premises was to be seen everywhere; but the inmates, who had enjoyed so much happiness and luxury, were exiled wanderers. We moved on, and in due time landed our boat at Portsmouth, at the mouth of the Scioto, where we disembarked our goods and horses, and made our way up to Chillicothe. We were 16 days on the Ohio river—reached Chillicothe after two days' travel, and put up at the Red Lion Hotel.

My letters of introduction in Chillicothe were addressed to Gen. Thos. Worthington, then U. S. Senator; Gen. Findley, Receiver of Public Money; Hon. —— Thompson, presiding Judge; John Carlisle, merchant; Jno. Woodbridge, cashier of Bank; and Gen. H. Fullerton, Clerk of Court. I had also letters of similar character to persons in Cincinnati, Louisville, Frankfort, Lexington, Paris and Cynthiana, Ky. Pleasure and business were my objects, and I made the most of my trip.

The time spent in Chillicothe was exceedingly pleasant, our stay lasting a fortnight. Besides the balls and hunting parties, we visited the ladies, and participated in a variety of entertainments. Much of our enjoyment was under the auspices of Angus L. Langham, a young man buoyant, full of life, and a great favorite in society.

We next went to Cincinnati, where my company left me. I

went alone to the Territory of Indiana, then back to Cincinnati, and out to Lebanon, where, with a party of 20 or 30 young ladies and gentlemen, I spent a few days among the Shakers, to see their dancing devotions. When I came back, I purchased a flat-boat, in which I put my horse, and started down the Ohio to Louisville. I had followed the sea a number of years, and believed I could navigate the craft. I reached Louisville safely, stopping a few hours at Vevay, the Swiss wine settlement. Paid $5 for my boat, and sold it for the same, at the mouth of "Bear-grass." Went from Louisville to Frankfort, Lexington, Paris, Cynthiana, Newport; thence to Cincinnati. Left Cincinnati for Chillicothe, and with Mr. Keys started for Baltimore by way of Pickaway Plains and Circleville—a town consisting of only three or four houses. Arriving at Baltimore, I purchased a full stock of dry goods and groceries for Chillicothe, where I opened them in 1811. I stopped at the Red Lion, which I made my home.

The town of Chillicothe in that day, was a stirring business place—the county town and the seat of the State government—with great natural advantages, and surrounded by a fine country. It was supposed it would outgrow Cincinnati. I refused great inducements to stop at the latter place, and declared in favor of Chillicothe, which at that time had 24 stores, and mechanics of every kind—two hatters, two saddlers, two tinners, several cabinet shops and chair-makers, blacksmiths and a wool factory. There were three or four churches, an academy, a bank, court-house, and good common schools. The community was well-ordered, and in good moral condition.

I rented, for my store, a one-story frame near the market-house, which stood at the head of Paint street, near the line of Water street. The business was all confined to Water street. The names of the business men were: John McLandburg (Wm. Ross, clerk); John Carlisle (Jno. Walker, clerk); Wm. and James Irwin; Nathan Gregg; David Kinkead (O T. Reeves, clerk); Amasa Delano, drug and book store; Sam'l, Joseph and George Brown, Marcus Highland, Thomas James, James McClintick, Dr. John McDowell, Sam'l Taggart, Drayton M. Curtis, W. R. Southward, John and Craighead Furgeson, Barr & Keys, Sam'l Barr, Ephraim Doolittle, John Kerr, Wm. McFarland, Jas. Furgeson John McCoy, John Waddle, Isaac Evans, Nimrod Hutt, and John Hutt. Of this list, embracing all the merchants of that day, there is now [1866] but one survivor.

II.

As I have before stated, the business of Chillicothe was, in 1811, confined to Water street, and with few exceptions, the store and family dwelling were in the same house. The north side of Water street, by reason of the canal, is now entirely changed. Many of the houses of early date have been removed or torn down. I propose to give a view of Water street as it was in 1811.

Beginning at the northeast corner of Water and Mulberry streets, we find a two-story brick, occupied by John Hunter, tailor, and his family. He lived until 1863. On the opposite, or northwest corner, stood a large frame, with a porch all around, above and below, known as Phillips' Tavern, and kept by James Phillips. The next house was a small, one-story frame—John Watson's shop and dwelling. Some years after, Mr. Watson erected a neat, two-story brick, in which he lived for awhile, then gave it to his son-in-law, E. P. Pratt, silversmith. Next was a two story frame—John McLandburgh's store and dwelling. Wm. Ross was his clerk then, and for

many years thereafter. Sam'l McPherrin, hatter, occupied the next building, a one-story frame shop. Then came the two story frame store and dwelling of John Carlisle (John Walker, clerk). Wm. and James Irwin occupied the next, a small, one story frame. William subsequently moved his store into a large frame on the west side of Paint street. He married Miss Rhoda Calhoun, a belle of that day, noted for her fine voice in singing. Next was the store and dwelling of Nathan Gregg. His two daughters were fine dancers, and both made romantic matches. The next, an old log house on the corner of the alley, was kept as a barber-shop by Samuel Moody, an honest old Negro of pure African blood. He industriously accumulated some $2,000 before his death. He had a daughter named Fredonia Richardson, in honor of Robert R. Richardson, printer of the Fredonian (newspaper). On the other corner of the alley, in a two-story frame, was the shop of Wm. Robinson, silversmith, below; and the Fredonian printing office, above Robinson's excellent manufactures, from pure Spanish coin, are still to be found in families descended from old citizens. This house was subsequently used, during the war of 1812, as a respectable saloon, with billiard room attached. The next house, on the same lot, was the Red Lion Hotel, then kept by H. Buchanan, and previously by Horace Meeker. The boarders were Henry Brush, Jesup N. Couch, Richard Douglas, Carlos A. Norton, Judge Sprigg, Chas. Anderson, Sam'l Massie, Abraham J. Williams, all lawyers of the Chillicothe bar; John Woodbridge, Cashier of the Bank; Angus L. Langham, Recorder; Dr. John Hauson, David Kinkead and O. T. Reeves, his clerk; Wm. R. Southward, John Wood (clerk to Thos. James), Wm. McDonald, cabinet maker; Thos. Davis, carpenter; James Barnes, editor of the Scioto Gazette—successor to Collins & Parcells, who had succeeded Nathaniel Willis, the original proprietor of the Gazette Mr. Willis was the father of Nathaniel Willis, of Boston, and grandfather of N. P. Willis, the poet and editor. The other paper printed in Chillicothe was called The Supporter, and was edited by Geo. Nashee and Geo. Denny. Geo. Denny sold out the Supporter to Geo. Nashee, and bought the old Samuel Turner property, 10 miles out on the Bainbridge road, where he lived for some years. The next store and dwelling was occupied by Dr. Amasa Delano, who kept a drug and book store, with a circulating library. The next building was the large, two story frame store of David Kinkead, with the law office of C. A. Norton and Sam'l Massie in the upper rooms. The next, a log house—Joseph Miller, shoemaker. Next, Geo. Williams' hat-shop. Next, Sam'l Ewing's saddlery shop. He made a side-saddle in 1813, which is still used by the descendants of the fair owner. Honest workmen, in those days! Next to him was the store of Samuel, Joseph and Geo. Brown. They all moved to Circleville, except Samuel, who bought the old Turner tan-yard, low down on Paint street, near the creek. He married Commodore Porter's sister, and his only son was appointed Dragoman to the Porte, and lives in Constantinople. Next, Marcus Highland, merchant; then the one story brick store of Thos. James; and adjoining this, a large two-story frame, occupied by his family. Dr. McDowell's shop; then James McClintick's store, on the northeast corner of Water and Paint.

Here Paint street ran down to the river and terminated. A small strip, next to McClintick's, made an angle around to the river bank, back of the lots on Water street, and left a wide space or commons.

Crossing Paint street, from McClintick's, we find a range of one-

story frames on a line with Water and Paint streets. But the river bank was so much caved in, that there was no ground for a lot, and the buildings were set on timber trestles, framed over the bank. The first building was occupied as Sam'l Taggart's store; the next as Joseph Miller's nail factory for cut nails. He was a brother to William Miller, subsequently a merchant on Paint street. In the next were Collins & Parcells, of the Scioto Gazette. This room was later used as the postoffice, under Esquire Creighton. After this was another building put up in the same manner on a timber framework, occupied first by A. J. Williams, then by John McDougal, then by Jas. Foster, book-binder. Here the street became too narrow, on account of the caving of the bank, for any more improvements, and so we pass on to Walnut street.

The first house on the northwest corner of Water and Walnut, was a two story brick, built by Nathan Reeves, tanner. He moved to the "Crossings" of Paint, 16 miles west, on the Bunbridge road, and this house was then occupied as a dwelling by W. R Southward, merchant. Adjoining, was a small, one-story brick, in which lived John Carter, tanyard manager. The tanyard was just above the Reeves house, on the river bank. Next, a large two story brick—John L. Tabb, cabinet maker. He shot a man, and then ran off to Virginia; and the house was purchased by Mrs. Vanderslice, from Philadelphia, mother in law of Thos. Orr, who, with his family, lived in her house. There was then no other house until we come to the stone mansion of Gov. Edward Tiffin on the corner of Water and High streets; and on the opposite, or northwest corner, a large brick, built by Thos. J. Hind. He moved away, and the house was subsequently occupied Dr. Monett and a long train of successors.

We will now cross to the southeast corner of High and Water, where we find the house of Wm. Creighton, jr. It was said that the whole of this property was originally bought for a horse, saddle and bridle. Going down the south side of Water toward Walnut, we find the houses of James English, Dr. Monett, Sam'l Hardy and a few others; but the only house of note was the two-story brick of Peter Spurk, silversmith His daughter Ann was a belle at all our balls; and his son, Dr. Spurk, settled in Piketon. On the corner of Walnut and Water was a large frame hotel, kept by Sam'l Wood. When the British were defeated on the Thames, some 18 or 20 British officers were brought to Chillicothe as prisoners, and were boarded at Woods' Tavern. They were a lively, frolicking set, who enjoyed and increased the gaieties of the season. Drayton M. Curtis, brother-in-law of Anthony Walke, lived on the opposite corner of Walnut. Then came J. Beard, tailor; and next, the noted wag, Peter Day, blacksmith. The street was only 25 feet wide here. John Martin, baker, came next; then Dr. McDowell's house, a two story frame; and next again, the house of Joseph Miller, the nailor. Next was a two story brick, owned by John Baker, butcher; and later by the Farmers' & Mechanics' Bank Next, Thos. Cogan, baker; then Joseph Tiffin, brother to the Governor, and himself postmaster, with the office there. Next, the shops of Thos. Orr and Andrew Lindsey. The next was a long, one-story frame, on the corner of Water and Paint—W. R Southward's store. In 1813 14, the room on Paint street was used by James Barnes as the printing office of the Scioto Gazette.

Crossing Paint, we pass the market-house, and find on the corner a large two-story brick—first room, John and Craighead Furgeson's store; second room (on Water), Barr & Keys' store. In the upper rooms, Mr. Furgeson's family lived, and Judge Thompson

had his law office. In 1814, a Mr. Turner used the rooms in portrait-painting. Diabler, the shoemaker, in the next house, served in the war of 1812, and was killed. Samuel Barr came next, then Scott, the tailor. The next building was Ephraim Doolittle's store and dwelling. Next, a two story frame—Wm. McFarland, Treasurer of State; next, a one-story frame—James Furgeson's store and dwelling. Then a two-story frame--S. McClure, baker. Next, John McCoy's warehouse, and adjoining it his dwelling, a two story brick, with tile roof; next, John Waddle's store and dwelling. Next were the two residences of Wm. L. Hutt and John Hutt--one a brick, and the other a frame store and dwelling. The next was the Spread-Eagle Hotel, kept by Wm. Keys -- popular and much frequented. His daughter married James Barnes. This hotel was kept by several parties, after Keys left it--Wm. Free, Wm. Beach, John Watson, Thos. Needham, &c. Next was a large brick, with tile roof—the store and dwelling of Isaac Evans. Evans was somewhat noted for his caustic wit. The next and last house was a one-story frame--Hunter & Lloyd; used first by Thos. Lloyd; and next by Bulhache & Richardson, as The Fredonia printing office, which was later removed to the Sherer rooms. W. R. S.

In continuing my reminiscences of Chillicothe in 1811, I will now take up Paint street; first stating that in these notes, as in the preceding, I have sometimes extended my observations down through a few of the subsequent years.

We will begin with the old market-house, which stood at the north end of Paint street, some 20 feet back from the line of Water street, and extended along the street about 150 feet. It was set on brick pillars, fifteen feet apart in the center, and the roof projected seven or eight feet on either side. About thirty feet from where the house terminated, was a pond of water, extending through the center of the street past the mound, and nearly to Second street. The water was, during most of the year, deep enough to wash a horse, and it was used by the hotel and town people for that purpose. The depression in the street was supposed to have been caused by the removal of the earth to build the mound, which was some twenty feet high, and situated midway between the alley and Second street.

On the east side of Paint street, in 1811, there were no improvements from the Furgeson corner until we pass the range of lots and the alley—the mound and that range of lots—and cross to the southeast corner of Second and Paint; but in 1813, two years later, W. R. Southward, who owned the mound lot, erected a two-story brick on the corner of the alley. In excavating the cellar it became necessary to remove part of the mound; and permission was given to the street commissioner to use the other portions in filling up the pond and leveling the street.

The "Madeira House" was put up, the next year, by John F. Keys, of Barr & Keys; but before it was finished, he sold it to John Carlisle, dissolved his partnership, and moved to Cincinnati. Mr. Barr formed a partnership with Francis Campbell, under the title of Barr & Campbell. Mr. Carlisle finished the Madeira House, rented the corner room to the U. S. Branch Bank; and, with his family, occupied the balance. Gen. Samuel Finley's residence, on the opposite corner, was a well finished, well improved property, being a large two-story brick with a garden attached, which was well stocked with fruit of every kind. The General was Receiver of Public Money, U. S. Land Office. His office was a frame building on the same lot. He was a kind, good man, and highly esteemed—an Elder in Dr. Wilson's church. He was so kind that advantage was taken of his goodness, bring-

ing him to misfortune and loss. He had several sons--one of them late Surgeon General in the U S. Army--and a daughter, who married Rev. Mr. McCalla, of Kentucky, afterward of Philadelphia.

The next house was a one-story brick--Amasa Davidson, of Wadle & Davidson. He married the daughter of Gen. Kerr. Crossing the alley, we have Fitch's Hotel, frequented by the country people, and a very good house. One of his sons, a Presbyterian preacher, is still [1866] living. The next, a one-story frame shop and dwelling--Isaac Cook, nailor. He was an Elder in Dr. Wilson's church. The lot from this building to Main street was vacant, owned by Wm. McFarland, and kept in pasture for cow and horse.

Cross Main street, pass several vacant lots, and we come to John McCann's tavern—it had been kept by one Olmsted, but was always a drinking house. There were no further improvements on that entire side of the street, till we come to the old Benjamin Turner tanyard, near Paint creek. He sold it to Samuel Brown, the same who married Miss Porter, the Commodore's sister. Mr. B. and Miss P. were passengers on shipboard from New Orleans to New York--were married, came to Chillicothe, and lived many years at the old tanyard, and died there. The Gen. Finley house, on the out-lot opposite the Academy, was not built until 1815.

We have now closed the east side of Paint street, and will now return and begin on the west side, corner of Water, where was an old frame building, one story, occupied by W. R. Southward as a store. The next room down Paint street was used by James Barnes and Peter Parcells, editors of the Scioto Gazette. Next came a one-story frame, John Sands' hat shop. There was no other improvement till we cross the alley, and find a large, two story frame, the residence of Gen. Nathaniel Massie. He occupied the front and upper part of the house. He ater moved up Paint creek, and built a furnace a few miles from the Rapid Forge. After he left the residence, it was occupied by Nathaniel Willis; then for many years by Wm. Irvin and family. One of the rooms had been fitted up as a store, and had been used, before I went to Chillicothe, by John Woodbridge, when in mercantile business; and subsequently by Gen. Samuel Swearingen and Thos. Swearingen, and also by Wm. Irvin.

Next came a one-story frame—Sam'l McCormick, shoemaker. No other improvement to the corner of Second street. The lot was low and wet, and owned by Henry Brush, who offered to sell it for $600. No other improvement to the alley next the public square. On the corner of it was a long, one-story house--Michael Byerly, shoe maker shop, used for drinking, where the town and country inebriates regularly met to drink and fight. Next we find the old State House, where the Legislature met once a year. Crossing Main street, on the corner was the Adam Holler lot, vacant. Crossing the alley, we find the residence of Gen. Humphrey Fullerton. On the other side of Fourth street was a one-story frame, afterward owned and occupied by O. T. Reeves. The next was a one-story frame shop and dwelling—James Robinson, cabinet maker. Articles of furniture manufactured by him are still in use. He was step-father to Miss Mary Scranton, one of our fashionable belles. She married John Kerr, one of the original proprietors of Columbus. No other improvement till we come to the last street Fifth, on the corner of which we find a one story brick, subsequently occupied as a dwelling by Rob't Kercheval.

Crossing the street, we find the Academy on an out-lot; and back of it, on the street going west, was the two story brick occupied by Jesse Spencer, Register of the Land Office. The property was purchased by Thomas James, who enlarged and improved the house. From the Academy to Paint creek

it was all vacant, except a large, two-story stone house, occupied by Hector Sanford, with the mill on the creek. This property was afterward purchased by Governor Worthington, and for a number of years was occupied by his son-in-law, David McComb, who afterward went to Florida.

The old market house described above was, after much contest, sold and taken down, and a new one built down the street, opposite the Court-house. After many years the location was again changed to the present site on the Adam Holler lot. During the contest concerning the location of the market-house, an independent market-house was put up at private cost, upon the upper end of Water street, near the residences of Mr. Creighton and Dr. Tiffin, and opposite the Thos. H. Hind property. It was not patronized, and the country people would not stop there with produce. So it died out, and was taken down.

Large white-oak, walnut and hickory stumps were thickly scattered on Paint, Main and other streets, until the town was incorporated. The first Town Council was composed of Levin Belt, Mayor; Jeremiah McLean, Recorder (also Secretary of State); Benj. Hough, Treasurer (also Auditor of State); W. R Southward, Anthony Walke, John A. Fulton, John A. Keys, James Entrekin and John Waddle. The town was well organized, and the streets and sidewalks rapidly improved.

The Chillicothe bar, at that time, included Wm Creighton, Henry Brush, Richard Douglas, Thomas Scott and Jesup N. Couch, all leading men. Scott and Couch were subsequently on the Supreme Bench, and Brush, Creighton and Thompson became members of Congress. The court was composed as follows: Thompson, presiding Judge; Hicks, Anthony and Cook, associates; Humphrey Fullerton, Clerk; A. L Langham, Recorder. Other members of the bar were Carlos A. Norton, Sam'l A. Massie, A. J. Williams, Levin Belt, Judge Sprigg and Chas. Anderson.

In 1812 Wm. Key Bond settled in Chillicothe; followed, in a few years, by Edward King, Fred'k Grimke and Benj Leonard, all of whom were distinguished ornaments of the legal profession. In the times of court, we had eminent lawyers from other places also; as Lewis Cass, Sam'l Herrick and David Chambers, of Zanesville; Philomen Beecher, of Lancaster, and sometimes Wm. Woodbridge, of Marietta.

Members of the Chillicothe bar also practiced in the surrounding counties. To one such occasion Chillicothe was indebted for the life-long services of Miss Baskerville as a school teacher. Messrs. Creighton, Douglas, Brush, Scott and Couch were attending Court in London, Madison county, when they became acquainted with Miss M. K. Baskerville, whom they found to be most intelligent and well-informed. As Chillicothe was in need of a teacher, they persuaded her to accept the situation. Judge Scott invited her to go down with him at once, and to make his house her home, which she did. She remained in Judge Scott's family for some time, and afterward resided at Col. Sterrett's and Gen. Finley's. Miss B was a lineal descendant of the old Pocahontas stock. She claimed this fact, and prided herself on her royal descent. She came to Ohio in 1807, with her father and his family, from Powhattan county, Va. They settled near London, Madison county, where her father had land warrants. Her brother was a Lieutenant in the war of 1812 Miss B. was fond of company—graced our social parties and attended our balls, where she took her place in the set dance. The only chance to obtain the company of Miss Sterrett at our balls, was through Miss B., as she was not permitted to go except under this lady's care. Access to the presence of these ladies was not very easy, for Col. Sterrett kept a sharp dog, concerning which I must relate an anecdote. We were arranging a ball, and it happened that the tickets for the Misses B. and S. were allotted to a

pert, lively little Frenchman, Francis Du Souchet, who was teaching the sword exercise here, and lived at the Red Lion. Out of sheer mischief, he was told that the best time to deliver the tickets would be in the evening. It was expected he would have trouble with the dog, but we said nothing. The little Frenchman was back before nine o'clock; his clothes badly torn, and himself much excited. Don Quixote, in his attack on the windmills, was not more discomfited than was Du Souchet in his attempt to enter Col. Sterrett's premises When he returned, one and all exclaimed, "Why, Monsieur, what is the matter?" "Matter! De fam dog! I fight one big dog, but no see ze ladies," and he scolded away violently in French. "Why, Monsieur, with your skill in small sword and broad sword, couldn't you manage a dog?" "I no call on ze ladies wif small sword and broad-sword and club—I no want to kill ze zhentleman's dog." Someone mischievously told him that the dog was "set on" by Miss B., hearing of which, she wrote a note of denial. He called upon her, and ever afterward said she was "one fine, grand lady." The joke lasted a long time with Norton, Williams and others.

Messrs. Douglas and Creighton, men of great legal ability, were also famous for their social qualities and vast fund of anecdote. In fact, the circuit practice of the day was full of amusing adventure, and gave rise to many "good stories, which we hope some member of the bar may yet rescue from oblivion. Col. Brush was noted alike for his chivalrous devotion to the ladies, and his strong military proclivities. Some of the wits of the town once took advantage of the latter quality, to perpetrate a practical joke at his expense. With much learning, they fabricated a letter in Latin, purporting to come from Aaron Burr; which, after lauding his military prowess, offered him strong inducements to join the famous Expedition. Completely deceived though he was, the Colonel' loyalty was yet proof against the temptations of the wily epistle;

Judge Belt, as well as his relative, Judge Sprigg, came from Maryland. Judge Belt was somewhat eccentric in dress and habits. He was a gentleman of the old school, even to the wearing of a queue, small-clothes and knee-buckles.

The first settlers in Chillicothe were all of the Presbyterian and Methodist persuasions. A large log meeting-house, near the old graveyard by the river bridge, was the first house of worship Before 1807, there were at least two brick churches. The "Bank Alley Church," named from the locality, was, in late years at least, used by the Seceders, a sect identical with the Scotch Presbyterians. Rev. Rob't G. Wilson was an eminent divine of the Presbyterian church. The Episcopal church was not organized till 1817, and the place of meeting was in the lodge room over the bank. Having no regular pastor, Judge Belt and Dr. Tiffin officiated as lay readers. Dr. Tiffin was a local Methodist preacher, but from birth and education was familiar with the service of the English church. Many anecdotes of Judge Belt are related in connection with his office as a lay reader. He scrupulously exacted the attendance of his children upon the services. To ensure their good behavior, he filled his pockets with sugar plums and other dainties, and upon occasion would descend from the reading desk to administer the pleasant quietus. Once, upon a visitation from Bishop Chase, in default of a vestry-room, Judge B—with his big bandanna fully extended—discreetly screened from the eyes of the congregation as much as possible of the Bishop's ample form, whilst he was donning the Episcopal robes. W. R S.

# *HATS OFF!*

Hats off! Along the streets there comes
A blare of bugles, a ruffle of drums,
A flash of color beneath the sky;
Hats off! The Flag is passing by!
Blue and crimson and white it shines
Over the steel-tipped ordered lines,
Hats off! the Colors before us fly;
But more than The Flag is passing by.
Sea fights and land fights, grim and great,
Fought to make and to save the State;
Weary marches and sinking ships;
Cheers of VICTORY on dying lips;
Days of plenty and years of peace,
March of a strong land's swift increase;
Equal justice, right and law,
Stately honor and reverent awe.
Sign of a nation, great and strong
To ward her people from every wrong;
Pride and glory and honor, all
Live in the colors to stand or fall.
Hats off! Along the street there comes
A blare of bugles, a ruffle of drums,
And loyal hearts are beating high;
Hats off! The Flag is passing by!

—(H. H. Bennett).

# Index to Ohio Place Names

## Survey May Aid Industries And Defense

CHILLICOTHE (OHIO) GAZETTE

SESQUICENTENNIAL EDITION

OCTOBER 10, 1950

If Ohio continues to be known —and increasingly so—as the state famed for small industries located in towns scattered over the semi-rural area, David K. Webb, of Chillicothe, and the Ross County Historical society deserve special thanlks.

Through Mr. webb's indefatigable efforts in compiling "An Index to Ohio Place Names" there is now partially prepared, and in the process of preparation, a wealth of pertinent data that can, with help, be compiled into an exhaustive survey of every town and hamlet in the state.

The project, started as a historical one in June, 1949, has developed far beyond historical significance and become a practical undertaking.

**Aid to Industries**

It offers invaluable aid for locating and relocating small industries by eliminating delay occasioned by special surveys, often completed too late to obtain the desired result. By the time the special survey is finished, prospective industry often has moved on, lost to the community desiring it, and sometimes to the state. When completed, the place name survey will provide immediate and comprehensive information on any Ohio locality.

Mr. Webb has mailed an outline of the project to countless possible sources of information and to publications in a position to give circulation to his request for any and all material bearing on Ohio communities. Too, he offers access to the data for all who may have use for it.

**Hundreds of Replies**

In his possession are hundreds of letters of response, representing individuals, universities and industry with requests for information, and with additional data. They prove a lively interest in the growing plan to give the state complete coverage on all the elements making Ohio localities what they are.

Many newspaper clippings indicate the publicity being given the effort, among them one from the New York Times urging interested readers who may have information which might assist in the compilation of material to communicate with Mr. Webb, or with the Ross County museum.

In "An Index to Ohio Place Names" Mr. Webb and his coworkers, Miss Emily Webb and Eugene D. Rigney, director of the Ross County Historical museum, have attempted to list all cities, towns, hamlets, post offices, historic sites, geographical landmarks, ferries, landings, harbors, counties, townships, streams, lakes, ponds, reservoirs, railroads, traction lines, canals, trails, principal highways, roads, turnpikes and all else pertaining to a locality, that now exist or ever have existed.

**Data for Defense**

The compilers of the survey call attention to the importance of having at hand all Ohio place name data for the use of large industries, reesarch workers, historians, tourists, students and others. In war times the research project should aid in developing a rapid system of national defense in this area with the possibility of locating any place in Ohio quickly, accurately and with immediately available, up-to-date information. Such could be of inestimable value in case of atomic or bacteriological attack.

Although only a little over a year old, the work has progressed to the recording of more than 18,000 towns, but this is regarded as a mere start in view of the work that can be done as desired data is received.

As a slight indication of material that can apply to a single name is the fact that one name out of every eight has been found to have one or more variations, sometimes three or four; for instance, and not without humor, Goshen Run, in Ross

county, also was known as Lick Skillet, and Meade, in Pickaway county, also was named Mutton Jerk. This is but one tiny item applicable to two small communities.

**Maine Survey Completed**

Ohio has one or more precedents to follow in this survey. The best known is the work of Stanley B. Attwood, editor of the Lewiston (Maine) Sun, who often has visited Chillicothe relatives. He has done the same service for the state of Maine, at a cost of approximately $15,000. He calls his volume, a copy of which is in the Ross County museum, "Up and Down Maine." It took 10 years to complete, which gives some idea of the task ahead for the Ohio undertaking.

It is probable the Ohio project may be taken over in the near future by Miami university, which is especially interested in its completion. So great has the task grown, it requires more time than is possible for those who started it to give, if its satisfactory use in the comparatively near future is to be insured.

Everybody who reads this can aid in the project. Most readers will desire their respective communities thoroughly covered. They can help to make them so by sending any pertinent material, no matter how seemingly small, to Mr. Webb. It may prove a missing link that will round out material at hand. Obscure names or variations, pictures or illustrations, or anything relating, even remotely, should be included.

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You can aid in making this index more complete for your own locality by sending in any information you believe we may have missed.

Your advice and suggestions will be appreciated.

David K Webb
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Chillicothe, Ohio.